



Society of African Missions

“The Mission”

23 Bliss Avenue
Tenafly, NJ 07670
Phone: 201-567-0450
Visit our website
www.smafathers.org



Mass Schedule

Sundays

10:00 am; 12 noon

Weekdays & Holy Days

9:30 am & 11:45 am

Christmas & New Year’s Day

10:00 am; 12 noon

Confessions Saturdays:

After 11:45am Mass.

Or by appointment.

Contact Fr. Frank Wright

201-567-0450 Ext 225/231

Bereavement & Visit to the Sick

Contact Fr. Frank Wight

201-450-6586

Perpetual Mass Association

Office open Monday-Friday
from 9:30am to 3:00pm

S.M.A. Vocation Office

Fr Dermot Roache, SMA

Director

201-256-0450 Ext. 253

S.M.A. Museum

Open Monday-Sunday from
9:00am –5:00pm

Sunday Collection: \$1,070

Thank you for your support.

Please remember to support

your local parishes.

Administration:

Fr Ranees A. Rayappan,
Provincial Superior

Fr Frank Wright,
House Superior

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Masses for the week of MAY 14, 2023 – MAY 20, 2023

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by:
Sun.-Sat.	8:00	Liv & Dec Benefactors of the SMA	
Sun. May 14	10:00	Gerarda Mauro+	Susan Iacullo
	12:00	Gerardina Rose+	Susan Iacullo
Mon. May 15	9:30	Holy Souls in Purgatory	Louise Coull
	11:45	Bertha Youn (Liv.)	Juliahna Park
Tue. May 16	9:30	Rev. Raymond C. Plourde+	
	11:45	Frayda Ascrate (Liv.)	Erly Cortez
Wed. May 17	9:30	Michael R. Desrochers+	
	11:45	Mayo Lamorena+ Erlinda Lamorena+	Family
Thurs. May 18	9:30	Jonas Tolentino+	Frayda Ascrate
	11:45	Ariel Duprey+ & Josefina Aniciete+	
Fri. May 19	9:30	Living & Deceased Members of the Desrochers Family	
	11:45	Feliciano Guinto+	Guinto Family
Sat. May 20	9:30	Living & Deceased Members of the Paradis Family	
	11:45	Martin Jennings+	Bernadette & John McCabe

Today’s Readings:

First Reading Acts 8:5-8. 14-17

The Holy Spirit is given to those who have accepted Christ and been baptised.

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:15-18

Peter says that followers of Jesus must be prepared to suffer, just as Christ our Lord suffered for our salvation.

Gospel John 14:15-21

Through our love of Christ, we are drawn into the very life of the God who is Father, Son and Spirit.



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Reflection

We are fast approaching the feast of the Holy Spirit. Next week, we celebrate the Ascension of our Lord, and the following week we celebrate Pentecost, the coming of the Spirit on the assembled Church in the upper room. The reading from the Acts of the Apostles paints a picture of the new Christian community, one removed from Jerusalem, receiving the Spirit. The Gospel from John that we heard today shows us Jesus assuring the gathered disciples that he will send a Paraclete, a comforter, someone to guide the Church.

In any day and age, it's difficult to talk about the Holy Spirit. People come away with ideas of either Caspar the Friendly Ghost, a spirit whose existence those older than sixty will no doubt remember, or else they have images of Pentecostal preachers slaying people in the Spirit so they collapse and hit their head on the carpeted concrete.

How can we talk responsibly about the Holy Spirit? One of the hymns for Pentecost, with which we are all familiar, is "Veni, Creator Spiritus.", often translated as "Come Holy Spirit, Creator Blest." I think the idea of the Holy Spirit as the creating face of God is a good jumping-off point. As a member of the Trinity, the Spirit participates in God's creating action of everything—the sun, the moon, the stars, the world we live in, our very selves. The Book of Genesis pictures the Spirit as hovering over the waters.

But her role in the Church shows us another way to look at it. The Holy Spirit is the spirit of truth, keeping the Church on the right path. This she does by means of the constant reflection by the Church on the wonders that God has done for us, by her guiding hand in helping the Church to read the signs of the times.

Think of it this way: the Holy Spirit is the source of new ideas and new endeavors in the Body of Christ. To the Spirit's credit, we list the rise of the monasteries, the establishment of the mendicant orders in the Middle Ages, the missionary movement of the 19th century. (That's where SMA comes in!) At their inception, all these projects were looked at askance; people lacked imagination to see how the Spirit was leading the Church.

How do we read the Spirit in today's world? Remember that the Spirit talks to each and every one of us. That's right! That's why we receive the Spirit at our baptism. Remember that creative ideas don't flow from the top down; rather they are born in the thrust and parry of everyday, Christian living. ... At present, the Church is engaged in an act of listening, of paying attention. All over the world, we have prepared for the various synods that take place in Rome.

The whole idea of synodality, a process in which this Archdiocese has fully participated, is to give the Spirit room to breathe. But it doesn't stop there, my brothers and sisters, by any means. The Spirit continues to speak to each and every one of us, even after the Synodal process has finished. Reflect on the demands of discipleship. Be creative. Just remember, the Spirit blows where it wills, and none can hinder her.

By Fr Frank Wright, SMA



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!



May the Lord bless all the mothers with peace and joy. May those who passed away rest in peace.